

Maine STD Incidence, January 1 to September 30, 2004

During the period January 1 to September 30, 2004, the Bureau of Health received reports of 1,537 chlamydia diagnoses, 170 gonorrhea diagnoses and 2 cases of infectious syphilis.

Gonorrhea continues to be diagnosed at a higher rate than was seen at this time last year, with a 14% increase over the 2003 year-to-date total. The number of chlamydia diagnoses is almost equal to 2003, with a 2% increase noted so far this year. Syphilis has decreased, with nine fewer cases than had been diagnosed at this time last year.

During the first nine months of 2004, gonorrhea was seen most frequently among residents of central and southern Maine, while chlamydia diagnoses were distributed evenly throughout the state. Men who have sex with men (MSM) were disproportionately affected by gonorrhea, comprising 37% of diagnoses. Chlamydia infections were most often diagnosed in young people between the ages of 15 and 24 years old, with this age group accounting for 74% of diagnoses.

The table below shows specific information about 2004 Chlamydia and Gonorrhea diagnoses.

(rounded percents are listed in parentheses)

Sex	Chlamydia	Gonorrhea
Male	411 (27)	103 (61)
Female	1126 (73)	67 (39)
Total	1537 (100)	170 (100)
Race	Chlamydia	Gonorrhea
White	1184 (77)	143 (84)
Black or African American	58 (4)	13 (8)
Asian	15 (1)	1 (1)
American Indian/Alaska Native	9 (1)	2 (1)
Native Hawaiian/other Pacific Islander	0	0
More than one Race	0	0
Some Other Race	9 (1)	2 (1)
Unknown	262 (17)	9 (5)
Total	1537 (100)	170 (100)
Ethnicity	Chlamydia	Gonorrhea
Hispanic	17 (1)	1 (1)
Not Hispanic	1260 (82)	160 (94)
Unknown	260 (17)	9 (5)
Total	1537 (100)	170 (100)
Age	Chlamydia	Gonorrhea
less than 15	5 (<1)	2 (1)
15-19	514 (33)	38 (22)
20-24	634 (41)	53 (31)
25-29	218 (14)	21 (12)
30-39	116 (8)	33 (19)
40-54	38 (2)	17 (10)
55+	11 (1)	6 (4)
Age Unknown	1 (<1)	0
Total	1537 (100)	170 (100)
Region of Residence	Chlamydia	Gonorrhea
Northern ¹	397 (26)	19 (11)
Central ²	585 (38)	69 (41)
Southern ³	554 (36)	82 (48)
Unknown	1 (<1)	0
Total	1537 (100)	170 (100)

¹**Northern Maine:** Aroostook, Hancock, Penobscot, Piscataquis and Washington Counties.

²**Central Maine:** Androscoggin, Franklin, Kennebec, Knox, Lincoln, Oxford, Sagadahoc, Somerset, Waldo Counties.

³**Southern Maine:** Cumberland and York Counties.